[English]

Shifting of Accommodation

2829. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :
SHRI VIJAY HARISHCHANDRA PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of action taken by the Government for shifting of Government accommodation granted to various persons for security reasons after the revised guidelines issued by the Government on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : After the issue of the guidelines dated the 10th October, 1996, the cases of persons allotted Government accommodation on security grounds are under review. The Ministry of Home Affairs is considering the cases of the protectees in the light of fresh threat assessment in their cases.

Demand and Supply of Power in Gujarat

2830. SHRI VIJAY HARISHCHANDRA PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the expected requirement of power in Gujarat during the Eight Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the achievement was far below the requirements of the State:

(c) the target fixed for power generation in the State during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) whether adequate financial allocation has been made to achieve the target; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed by the Government to meet the power shortage in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The anticipated power supply position in Gujarat for the year 1996-97 (terminal year of 8th Plan) and actual power supply position in Gujarat from April-January, 1997 is given below :

(Figures in MU net)

	Anticipated 1996-97	Actual April,96-Jan.,97
Requirement	41140	31460
Availability	34223	28922
Shortage	6917	2538
% Shortage	16.8	8.1

(c) and (d) The Ninth Five Year Plan has not been finalised.

(e) Various measures being taken to improve the availability of power in Gujarat include expediting the commissioning of new generating capacity, maximising the generation from existing capacity, implementation of Renovation and Modernisation programme, reduction in T and D losses, effective load management and energy conservation measures, arranging of power from neighbouring States/System and encouraging Private Sector participation in power generation etc.

Tourist Inflow in J and K

2831. SHRI NITISH BHARADWAJ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether tourists' inflow in J and K has begun;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of loss in terms of foreign exchange that country has sufffered on account of decline in tourists' inflow?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Yearwise details of the foreign tourists who visited Jammu and Kashmir State during the last three years are as under :

Year	Kashmir Valley	Ladakh	Total
1994	9014	15369	24683
1995	8198	12391	20589
1996	9592	13036	22628

(c) As far as foreign exchange is concerned, Statewise figures are not maintained. As regards foreign exchange earning in the country as a whole, the information is as under :

Year	Foreign tourist arrivals	Estimated Foreign Exchange earnings (Rs. in crores)
1994	1886433	7103.53
1995	2123683	8640.02
1996	2287860	10061.36

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited

2832. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether HPCL has appointed Arthur Andersen, international consultant for its restructuring exercise;

(b) the areas where the study has been conducted by this team;

(c) the main suggestions made by the team for improvement and action taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether other public sector companies oil sector have also appointed such consultant;

(e) if so, the results achieved by them in appointing such consultant;

(f) the total expenditure incurred by appointing such consultant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. has appointed M/s Arthur Andersen and Associates, a wholly Indian-owned firm of Consultants, for its business process re-engineering exercise.

(b) and (c) The Consultants' team has started the only in the third week of January, 1997, and the same is in prelimanery stage.

(d) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cess Levy

2833. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount collected by way of cess levy by the Government during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether Oil Industry Development Board has been getting lesser than 5% of the cess collected;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether fund available with OIDB is under utilised due to high rate of interest, and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to increase substantially cess collection as also to reduce interest rate by OIDB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The information is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per Section 16 of the Oil Industry Development Act, 1974, the cess is to be first credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and the Central Government may after due appropriation made by the Parliament by Law in this behalf pay to the Oil Industry Development Board such sums of money out of the proceeds of cess as the Government may think fit for being utilised for the development of the Oil Industry, which inter-alia, includes petroleum, petro-chemicals and fertilizers.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) There is no concrete proposal at present either to increase collection of cess or to further reduce the interest rates structure prevalent in the OIDB.

Statement

Collection of Cess on Crude Oil

(Rs./Crores)

Year	Amount (Approx.)
1993-94	2161
1994-95	2549
1995-96	2801

Utilisation of Funds

2834. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any extensive exercise to ensure that the funds meant for rural development projects in the States do not lapse;

(b) if so, whether the Union Minister had discussions with twelve States so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the names of the States who have utilised the amount sanctioned to them by the Centre so far;

(d) whether the Centre have obtained the Utilisation Certificates from these States;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the projects on which the State Government have utilised these rural projects; and

(f) time by which further amount is proposed to be sanctioned to these States who have already utilised the earlier funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) Concerted efforts are made by the Government to ensure that funds meant for rural development programmes in the States are fully utilized every year. To achieve this objective, various measures taken include periodical meetings with State Government Ministers/Officials, meetings of State Level Coordination Committees, field inspections by the Central and State Government officials etc. Further, the Union Minister also held discussions with State Chief Ministers, Ministers in charge of Rural Development and senior officials of the State Governments during the year in respect of States such as Andhra Pradesn, Assam, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland and Tripura and reviewed the progress of implementation of the schemes. The State Governments have assured that the amount sanctioned under different programmes by the Centre would be utilized fully.

(d) to (f) Statements indicating utilisation of funds in major programmes of IRDP, JRY, EAS by the States are